

Amendments to the Specification:

Please add the following new headings and paragraph after the Title.

CROSS-REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATION

This application is a U.S. National Stage application of PCT Application No. PCT/AT 2004/000424, filed December 2, 2004, which claims priority from Austrian Application No. A 1928/2003, filed on December 2, 2003.

FIELD OF THE INVENTION

Please add the following new heading prior to line 3 on page 1.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

Please add the following new heading prior to line 13 on page 1.

BRIEF SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

Please amend the paragraph starting on line 26 of page 1 as follows:

The ~~object of the present invention is therefore to create~~creates a flow rate limiter in order to achieve a marked flow rate reduction with high gas uptake.

Please amend the paragraph starting on line 1 of page 2 as follows:

This ~~object~~ is accomplished according to the present invention by a flow rate limiter of the type mentioned in the introduction in that an inlet funnel is connected at the inlet port. The inlet funnel brings about high flow rates of the fluid in the channel; moreover, the fluid is swirled. These high flow rates bring about a vacuum in the area of the outlet port of the channel, so that large quantities of gas are drawn in via the gas channel and are taken up by the swirled fluid. The flow rate of shower water, for example, can thereby be reduced from usually 15 to 19 L/min. to 3 to 5 L/min., without the showering comfort being diminished, because the volume of the water jet is increased because of the drawing in of air via the gas intake. This makes possible a marked cost reduction in water consumption and in the energy costs for hot water preparation.

Please amend the paragraph starting on line 12 of page 2 as follows:

In a ~~preferred~~an exemplary embodiment, the curvature of the inlet funnel corresponds to a curve $F(x) = C \cdot 1/x$. This results in an increased acceleration of the fluid in the channel. This curve shape corresponds, in nature, to known phenomena, in which forces can act optimally (e.g.: tornadoes, coriolis force, etc.).

Please amend the paragraph starting on line 29 of page 2 as follows:

Furthermore, ~~the object~~this is accomplished in that a flow rate limiter is arranged between the inlet port and the outlet port of a mount. This mount can be mounted without much trouble on hoses, pipes, fittings and other elements that are provided for the transport of fluids.

Please amend the paragraph starting on line 2 of page 3 as follows:

In another ~~variant~~embodiment of the present invention, the at least one channel for the fluid and the at least one gas outlet port open into a mixing chamber which is permeable in the direction of flow. This has the advantage that the fluid is mixed with the gas after the acceleration of the fluid in the channel.

Please amend the paragraph starting on line 27 of page 3 as follows:

Furthermore, in another ~~preferred variant~~embodiment of the present invention the housing has at least one recess for receiving magnetic, inorganic or organic materials in the area of the outlet port or in the area of the flow rate limiter. The material placed in the recess may be, for example, inorganic material that is used for therapeutic purposes. Thus, semiprecious stones are preferably used for energizing drinking water.

Please add the following new heading prior to line 10 of page 4:

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

Please add the following new heading prior to line 29 of page 4:

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION

Please amend the paragraph starting on line 6 of page 6 as follows:

Another ~~variant~~ embodiment of the present invention is shown in Figure 4. The mixing chamber MIS likewise has curved shoulders SUL, whose shape corresponds to a curve $F(x) = C \cdot 1/x$. In addition, means MIT are shown, which control the inflow and outflow of the water. In this case, for example, a pin, which has an enlarged tip (not shown), is inserted into the channel KAN or into the outlet port OUT. As a result, the diameter of the channel or of the outlet port OUT is reduced, and the flow is reduced. The pin tip can be positioned, for example, by rotating the pin in a corresponding threaded section.

Please amend the paragraph starting on line 15 of page 6 as follows:

The other embodiment of the present invention shown in Figure 5 has a recess AUN in the area of the outlet port OUT. As shown in Figure 6a, this recess has a ring-shaped design. The recess AUN is used for receiving magnetic materials. Studies have shown that magnetic fields have a positive effect on lime deposits in water-conducting lines and fittings. Therefore, the use of magnets can reduce possible lime deposits in the flow rate limiter DUR and in the mount AUF.

Please add the following paragraph at the end of page 7:

Although the invention is illustrated and described herein with reference to a specific embodiment, the invention is not intended to be limited to the details shown. Rather, various modifications may be made in the details within the scope and range of equivalents of the claims and without departing from the invention.